



Executive Summary for Community Education

As identified in the College's purpose statement (B1000), community education programming is essential to community members' personal interest, growth, and enrichment.

According to the Board's Community Education Programming Strategic Outcomes policy (B1007), students receive value by engaging in the College's community education courses, seminars, camps, and programs (i.e., community education programming) designed to help them fully develop their natural abilities by gaining knowledge and skill on topics of personal interest. By completing these lifelong learning activities, students potentially enrich their lives, increase their personal satisfaction, gain a sense of self-fulfillment, adapt to change, increase their wisdom, and strike a balance between work and life. Further, students benefit from community education programming that enables them to continuously pursue and sustain their passion in ways that lead to feelings of social inclusion and demonstrations of active citizenship through active and meaningful contributions to society. Students receive greater value when their passions for community education programming can be linked to their professional interests or work life.

The Board directs the President to establish, deliver, and continuously improve community education programming to achieve these benefits. This report updates the College's Community Education Programming and its alignment with the Board's Strategic Outcomes using the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in the [Shawnee Community College Effectiveness System \(SCCES\)](#).

Some areas of focus for Community Education in 2024-2025, along with the [Strategic Plan](#) initiative to which they are aligned, include:

- Increase the variety and number of Community Ed courses (S2G3OA)
- Improve the recruitment process for Community Ed courses (S2G1OH, S4G4OA)
- Increase the number of course offerings at each SCC location (S2G3OA, S2G3OE)
- Increase our partnerships with community organizations to deliver Community Ed courses of interest to residents (S2G3OA)
- Determine ways to discover the Community Ed courses residents desire (S2G3OA)
- Enhance the registration process to make it more accessible and user-friendly for Driver Safety Participants. (S2G1OD)
- Explore more grant opportunities to help support the Community Education initiative. (S2G2OD)

As specified by Board Policy *B1007 Community Education Programming*, the following SCCES areas of performance have been identified:

- [Community Need](#)
- [Student Interest](#)
- [Enrollment](#)
- [Fiscal Stewardship](#)



- [Deployment](#)

When analyzing the KPIs aligned to these SCCES areas, the following patterns and trends are evident:

- The In-District population remains the foundation of Community Education participation. Still, both Out-of-District and Out-of-State enrollments are growing, suggesting potential for further regional outreach and virtual offerings.
- The significant increase in both duplicated and unduplicated Saints Kids enrollment from 2023 to 2025—an 84% and 63% increase, respectively—demonstrates measurable progress toward increasing the variety and number of Community Ed courses (S2G3OA). The expanded offerings, particularly in the Saints Kids series, are attracting more students, indicating that course relevance and accessibility are improving.
- Enrollment data also reflects geographic growth. In-district enrollment remains strong, but the increase in out-of-district students (+44%) and out-of-state students (+388%) suggests that outreach is extending beyond the immediate service area. This supports the strategic focus on increasing course offerings at each SCC location (S2G3OA, S2G3OE) and improving access to underserved or neighboring communities.
- The increase in participation, especially among younger students, likely relates to more partnerships with community organizations (S2G3OA). These collaborations raise awareness and improve access, leading to more enrollment, especially in rural areas.
- The expansion of course offerings at all locations from 2021 to 2025 directly supports SCC's Strategic Goals, especially S2G3OA: Increasing course variety and availability, S2G3OE: Expanding programming across all locations, S2G1OH & S4G4OA: Improving recruitment and community engagement.
- The Union and Johnson Centers stand out as success stories, demonstrating how increased investment and local engagement can rapidly scale up programming. Alexander and Massac Centers are in growth phases, showing strong recovery and untapped potential. Main Campus continues to be a stable cornerstone, anchoring the program with consistent offerings and participation.



Performance Areas: Community Needs and Student Interest

Academic Year	Number of Unique Courses	Number of Total Sections	Average Sections Per Course
2018	17	60	3.53
2019	13	6	4.62
2020	14	51	3.64
2021	17	24	1.41
2022	32	50	1.56
2023	35	71	2.02
2024	15	84	5.6
2025	36	77	2.13

While offering a healthy variety of classes is essential, repeating sections of classes also has benefits. For example, the Little Saints Book Club meets monthly. While some students are duplicated and attend every month, it is not uncommon for new students to join these classes as their schedules permit. These numbers reflect a blend of unique classes offered and repeating sections of courses as requested by the community. Additionally, the Driver Safety courses have been included in this chart for the 2025 data. This course is offered monthly in two sections.

Course Offerings Per Location in Community Education

Academic Year	Alexander Co. Center	Johnson Co. Center	Main Campus	Massac Co. Center	Union Co. Center
2018	0	0	15	11	19
2019	0	0	13	14	21
2020	1	1	14	11	15
2021	4	0	6	0	6
2022	3	0	28	10	16
2023	11	7	17	5	19
2024	14	15	23	7	13
2025	12	16	27	23	33



From 2018 to 2025, the number of Community Education course offerings across SCC's five locations—Union County, Alexander County, Main Campus, Massac County, and Johnson County—has shown significant growth, particularly following the low point in 2021 when only 16 courses were offered due to the pandemic. By 2025, total course offerings rose to 111, a 594% increase over four years and a 53% increase from 2023, demonstrating strong alignment with Strategic Initiative S2G3OA to increase course variety and availability.

Union County Center led the system in 2025 with 33 offerings, reflecting steady growth and strong community engagement. The Alexander County Center, which had minimal offerings before 2021, experienced substantial growth through 2024 and continued to offer 12 courses in 2025. The Main Campus remained a consistent hub, rebounding to 27 offerings in 2025 after a dip in 2023. Massac County Center, which had no offerings in 2021, experienced a sharp rise to 23 in 2025, while Johnson County Center went from zero courses through 2022 to 16 in 2025. The resurgence and expansion of offerings across all sites underscore SCC's responsiveness to community needs and its progress toward enhancing access and diversity in Community Education programs throughout the district.

Community Education courses are possible due to our community partnerships as of July 2025:

1. Arrowleaf & SCC SBDC- PS 803A-30 and PS 803A-40, Computer Basics Classes.
2. Cache River Disc Golf Association- PS 101-01 Disc Golf Camp and creation of Disc Golf Course at Shawnee Community College.
3. Community Health and Emergency Services, PS 0196-30, for Safety and First Aid Training.
4. Dollar General Literacy Grant, Saints Foundation, Vienna High School, PS 302-40 Little Saints Book Club.
5. Ed2Go—Through Ed2Go, we can offer a variety of online courses tailored to specific student requests.
6. Gunn's Family Farm- PS 600A, Fantastic Florals & Container Gardening Class, donation of flowers.
7. HCCTP, CTE Faculty, and funding opportunities with the Technical Skills Training Pathways Grant - PS 0107, 0108, 0109, Introduction to Trades, Trade Occupations, and Automotive & Robotics Camps.
8. Illinois State Police- PS 0193-01, Simulator Training for State Police.
9. Legacy Training Center- PS 284-01, Women's Health Fair seminar.
10. National Safety Council, PS 228-50 PS 228-65, Certification for the Defensive Driver Course.
11. Patron of the Arts, PS 0200-01 Fall SCC Musical Production.
12. Pulaski County, Ullin Police Department, SCC's EMS and Criminal Justice Faculty – PS 0085-01 Saints Kids First Responder Camp.
13. Safe Sitter Organization - PS 0192-01 & PS 0192-67: Saints Kids Safe Sitter Certificate Course.
14. SCC SBDC Department - PS 201, 202, & 306: Intro to Marketing and Canva Classes.
15. Southern 7 Health Department - PS 0196: Stop the Bleed classes at extension centers for the public.
16. Union County CEO, PS 0040-67.
17. University of Illinois Extension, PS 261 Saints Kids Drone Camp.



Performance Area: Enrollment

Community Education Headcount 2023-2025					
Residency	2023	2024	2025	Duplicated Student Count	Unduplicated Student Count
In District	827	723	994	2544	1534
Out of District	87	59	137	283	249
Out of State	35	42	74	151	127
Count:	949	824	1205	2978	1910
Unduplicated Count:	757	666	876		

Between 2023 and 2025, enrollment in Community Education at Shawnee Community College exhibited a positive upward trend. The total duplicated student headcount increased from 949 in 2023 to 1,205 in 2025, reflecting a 27% overall growth, despite a slight dip in 2024. Similarly, the unduplicated student count increased from 757 in 2023 to 876 in 2025, representing a 15.7% increase over the three years.

When analyzed by residency, in-district students consistently represented the largest participant group. In-district enrollment increased from 827 in 2023 to 994 in 2025, representing a 20.2% rise and accounting for 83% of the total duplicated headcount in 2025. Out-of-district enrollment, although smaller, demonstrated significant growth—from 87 students in 2023 to 137 in 2025—representing a 57.5% increase and accounting for 11.4% of the total enrollment in 2025. Out-of-state participation also rose steadily, increasing from 35 students in 2023 to 74 by 2025, a 111% rise, comprising 6.1% of the total duplicated count in the final year. These enrollment patterns suggest growing community interest and expanding geographic reach of the College’s Community Education programs.

Saints Kids Headcount 2023-2025					
Residency	2023	2024	2025	Duplicated Student Count	Unduplicated Student Count
In District	404	542	730	1676	731
Out of District	27	20	39	86	46



Saints Kids Headcount 2023-2025					
Out of State	8	22	39	69	835
Count:	439	584	808	1831	
Unduplicated Count:	290	331	473		

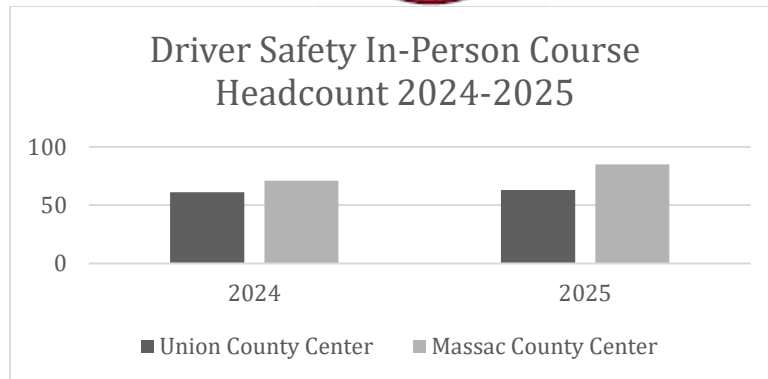
From 2023 to 2025, Saints Kids programming at Shawnee Community College experienced robust growth in both duplicated and unduplicated student enrollment. The duplicated student count nearly doubled, rising from 439 in 2023 to 808 in 2025—an 84% increase. The unduplicated count increased from 290 to 473 during the same period, representing a 63% rise and indicating expanded reach and retention.

In-district students comprised the vast majority of participants, increasing from 404 in 2023 to 730 in 2025, accounting for 90% of all enrollments in 2025. While out-of-district and out-of-state participation comprised smaller portions of total attendance, both segments saw meaningful increases. Out-of-district enrollment rose 44%, and out-of-state enrollment grew by an impressive 388% over three years. These numbers suggest that the Saints Kids program is not only deepening local impact but also attracting broader regional interest.

In the Fall of 2024, the Driver Safety Program was added to the Community Education department. This program is designed for drivers who have been stopped for minor traffic violations in Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Pulaski, and Union counties in Illinois. They may be eligible for the Driver Safety Program offered by Shawnee Community College as an alternative to court. After completing the four-hour course, participants receive a certificate, which is reported to the court. A \$30 processing fee is collected per application.

Beginning in August 2024 through July 2025, there have been:

- 1107 applications processed for the program
- 734 applicants have completed the program
- 586 applicants completed the online course through the National Safety Council
- 148 applicants completed the in-person course at either the Union County or Massac County Centers.



During the 2024 academic year, 132 students enrolled in the in-person PS 228 (Defensive Driving) class. In 2025, the total enrollment increased to 148. Our goal is to boost these numbers by improving online course registration options.

Community Education Duplicated Headcount Per Location 2023-2025			
Location	2023	2024	2025
Alexander County	49	95	168
Johnson County	63	14	10
Main Campus	295	328	489
Massac County	54	68	125
Union County	321	330	413

Alexander County saw the most dramatic increase in duplicated headcount, rising 243% from 49 in 2023 to 168 in 2025. This suggests strong growth in outreach, programming, or local engagement. Massac County grew by 131%, also showing significant program expansion or higher participation rates. The Main Campus and Union County experienced steady and consistent growth, with the Main Campus increasing by 66% and Union County by 29%, indicating healthy demand and ongoing community interest. An area of concern to focus on improvements for this coming year, Johnson County experienced a sharp decline of 84%, dropping from 63 to just 10 duplicated headcounts.

The total duplicated headcount across all locations rose from 782 in 2023 to 1,205 in 2025, representing a 54% overall increase. This indicates strong growth and expanding impact of the Community Education programming systemwide over the three years.



Saints Kids Duplicated Headcount Per Location 2023-2025

Location	2023	2024	2025
Alexander County Center	14	94	125
Johnson County Center	126	195	179
Main Campus	185	217	375
Massac County Center	52	7	49
Union County Center	62	71	80

Alexander County experienced explosive growth, increasing from 14 participants in 2023 to 125 in 2025—a 793% increase. This suggests significant gains in outreach, community engagement, or program expansion. The Main Campus also saw substantial growth, increasing by 103% from 185 to 375 participants, likely due to the variety and consistency of programming offered. Johnson County maintained significant numbers with a 42% increase, indicating sustained interest and successful programming for youth. Union County demonstrated consistent growth each year, with an overall 29% increase, reflecting stable program development and community involvement.

The total Saints Kids duplicated headcount increased from 439 in 2023 to 808 in 2025, representing a robust 84% growth. From 2024 to 2025, the total duplicated headcount increased by 224 students, representing a 38% growth across all locations, which reinforces the expanding reach and success of Saints Kids programming in the region.

Performance Area: Deployment

The Community Education Department continues to use the Smore newsletter platform to promote all Saints Kids and Community Education courses to our community. Since its creation in 2022 through July 2025, the Smore newsletter for Community Education courses has received over 62,607 visits. The Little Saints and Saints Kids Smore newsletters garnered 14,999 views, with an additional 2,047 views specifically for the 2025 Summer Saints Kids Camps. The Smore newsletter has been an excellent tool for increasing the visibility of our Community Education programs.

The Driver Safety Program has also revamped the enrollment process beginning in the Fall of 2024. Participants now have access to and the opportunity to enroll in and view all available Driver Safety courses for each semester.



Performance Area: Fiscal Stewardship

The Community Education Department continues to utilize online registration and payment options, featuring PayPal for secure transactions. Our community members have widely used this option. The registration link can be found in the Smore newsletter and on the Community Education section of the college's homepage. This link provides information on Personal Development/Community Events Classes for Adults, as well as connecting to the SCC Kids Camps and Events page. A total of \$10,048 in registration fees was collected throughout the academic year via PayPal. This amount only includes paid classes, as PayPal is not required for free courses.

With the collaboration of the Bursar and the Community Education Department, the revenue generated from Community Education and Saints Kids Camps has been tracked through PayPal. Participants who enroll online are directed to PayPal. Each semester, the Bursar downloads the transactions into a shared spreadsheet for the Community Education department to note the course taken and any other necessary information.

- Summer 2025 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$7,462 (with fees deducted)
- Fall 2024 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$1,046 (with fees deducted)
- Spring 2025 PayPal Revenue for Community Education was \$1,910 (with fees deducted)

During the summer of 2025, the Saints Kids Camps greatly benefited from the Technical Skills Training Pathways Grant, awarded by the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB). The grant, obtained by Dean of Career and Technology Kristy Stephenson, included provisions to offer trade-focused courses or camps for youth within the district. Through this partnership with the Career and Technology division, the grant covered camp enrollment fees, instructor compensation, instructional materials, and even provided meals for many local participants.

Another example of fiscal stewardship is the partnership with the Cairo School District. They had activity funds set aside for summer involvement activities for their students. Through this program, any Cairo school district student had the opportunity to attend any of the Saints Kids Camps at the Alexander County Center for free this summer.

To promote equity among our younger Saints Kids, particularly in high-need programs like the Little Saints Book Club, which focuses on early childhood and elementary literacy, we have sought ways to expand offerings to our most vulnerable populations, ensuring access is not limited to students from affluent families. We were awarded a grant of \$8,900 from the 2025-2026 Dollar General Literacy Foundation to fund programs that increase elementary literacy and promote family literacy within our communities. This funding helps sustain our childhood literacy programs, making them accessible to all families, including those of lower socioeconomic statuses.

Performance Area: Values

Shawnee Community College believes in the importance of lifelong learning. Our community education programs support the growth of our area by fostering a community of lifelong learners. By intentionally offering meaningful courses, we can enrich the lives of people in our community. To ensure we meet our



community's needs, the Director of Community Education has worked diligently with each extension center coordinator to determine what each community needs.

The Alexander Extension Center has significantly expanded its Community Education and Saints Kids course offerings. Popular classes such as Safety and First Aid, Container Gardening, and Men's and Women's Health have drawn strong participation, supporting our goal of fostering greater civic engagement within the community. The Little Saints Book Club has also been enthusiastically received, offering free books and interactive literacy activities to promote early reading skills. With a summer lineup that includes robotics, drones, cookie decorating, and basketball, the youth of Alexander County have had numerous options to expand their development.

In Johnson County, early childhood literacy remains a primary focus due to limited access to early education opportunities. Through partnerships with local agencies, the Johnson County Center has successfully hosted eight Little Saints Book Club events, distributing free books to children ages 0–5 and promoting parental awareness of the importance of early literacy. In addition, an introductory computer skills class for senior citizens was offered at the Johnson County Center in 2025, expanding Community Education efforts to serve learners across generations.

The Massac County Center expanded its Community Education and Saints Kids course offerings this past academic year. A diverse array of courses is offered each semester, including Defensive Driving, Stop the Bleed—a course that teaches life-saving skills to the community—and SBDC class partnership opportunities. By continuing these programs, we aim to connect our citizens to their community and foster greater civic engagement.

The Union County Center remains a vital hub for learning, wellness, and community connection. Over the past year, the center has offered a diverse range of classes and events tailored to meet the interests and needs of people of all ages. Ongoing programs include continuous enrollment in the fitness center and monthly Driver Safety courses. This year, the center partnered with the Union County CEO Program, offering meeting space for local students and hosting classroom sessions at least once a month. Partnerships with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) resulted in several successful workshops, including two hands-on Canva sessions that equipped participants with practical skills in marketing and design.

At the Main Campus, Community Education has focused on offering enriching opportunities for children, particularly those who may lack access to extracurricular activities through their local schools. Our programs span a wide variety of topics, including physical education, STEM, arts and crafts, and technology, designed to engage young learners and support both traditionally schooled and homeschooled students. These experiences not only provide valuable skill-building but also introduce youth to the possibilities of higher education. Additionally, strong partnerships have enhanced our offerings through collaborative events, including CTE camps, drama workshops, the Women's Health Fair, disc golf instruction, simulator training with the Illinois State Police, and Stop the Bleed safety sessions.



By offering a diverse range of programs throughout the year, Community Education aims to continue strengthening its role as a welcoming space where community members can learn, connect, and grow together.

Actions and Recommendations

Actions Completed/Currently Implemented and the Strategic Plan Initiative to which they are aligned:

- Increase our partnerships with community organizations to deliver Community Ed courses of interest to residents (S2G3OA)
- Make the registration process more accessible and user-friendly (S2G1OD)
- Increase the variety and number of Community Ed courses (S2G3OA)
- Improve the recruitment process for Community Ed courses (S2G1OH, S4G4OA)
- Increase the number of course offerings at each SCC location (S2G3OA, S2G3OE)

Recommendations and Actions for Future Consideration and the Strategic Plan Initiative to which they are aligned:

- Incorporate a new CRM (Navigate 360) to create a survey at the end of Community Education Courses for participants to reflect on enriching their lives, enhancing personal satisfaction, gaining a sense of fulfillment, and adapting to change (S2G3OA)
- Increase and create online community education course offerings, especially those developed by SCC, with projected implementation in Summer 2026, under the direction of the Director of Community Education and Extension Centers. (S2G3OA)
- Continue to update the registration process for the Driver Safety program.
- Create new community education courses in conjunction with the new disc golf course, aiming to foster community involvement by the end of the Fall 2025 semester.
- Capitalize on growth at Main Campus and Massac County with continued support and marketing.
- Review programming or outreach strategies in Johnson County to understand the slight decline and identify opportunities for renewal.
- Maintain steady growth in Union and Alexander Counties by sustaining program quality and community engagement.